

Torres, Francine

From: josh@gumtech.com%inter2 [josh@gumtech.com] on behalf of josh@gumtech.com
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2005 5:13 PM
To: National List
Subject: USDA Letter for your review
Attachments: ATTACHMENT.TXT

Mr. Arthur Neal
Director, Program Administration
National Organic Program
USDA-AMS-TMP-NOP,
1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 4008-So.
Ag Stop 0268
Washington, DC 20250
Re: Document Number TM-0407

Dear Mr. Neal,

It has come to our attention that Carrageenan may be deleted from the National List of products used in Organic production and handling. We would object to this. Seaweed extracts have been used for centuries in Asia and many other cultures. Usage levels also very low, typically in the .05 - .10 % range. The functionality of Carrageenans is unique and not easily replaced with other substances. Furthermore, the primary "chemicals" used in processing Carrageenans is not much different than those used in other approved products. For example the sulfates used in manufacturing Carrageenan are also used in the processing of Tofu . We believe that Carrageenans are manufactured in a very earth friendly and organic manner.

Sincerely,



Joshua Brooks

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